

REMARKS

Claims 4-14, 16-18, and 23-24 are pending in the application. Claims 15 and 19-22 were previously canceled without prejudice to facilitate issuance of a Notice of Allowance on the allowable subject matter. Claims 1-3 are currently canceled without prejudice to facilitate issuance of a Notice of Allowance on the allowable subject matter. Claims 8 and 11 are hereby amended. Claims 23 and 24 are newly added. No new matter is being added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-7, 9, and 10 were allowed in the latest office action.

Claim 11 was deemed allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, set forth in the latest office action. Applicants have hereby amended claim 11 to overcome this rejection by removing the word "modified" in front of "layer 2".

In addition, by deleting the word "modified" in claim 11, the objection to the drawings in relation to claim 11 is also overcome. (An "L2 MAC Table" is shown in original FIG. 14.)

Finally, by changing "MAC" to "media access (MAC)" in claim 11, the informality regarding spelling out MAC is overcome.

Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claim 11 is now in allowable form.

Claims 12-14 and 16-18 depend from claim 11. These claims were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, due to their dependence on claim 11. As discussed above, applicants have hereby amended claim 11 to overcome this rejection by removing the word "modified" in front of "layer 2". Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claims 12-14 and 16-18 are now also in allowable form.

New claim 23 depends from allowable claim 11 and includes the limitations from original claim 2. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 23 is also in allowable form.

New claim 24 depends from allowed claim 4 and includes the limitations from original claim 3. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 24 is also in allowable form.

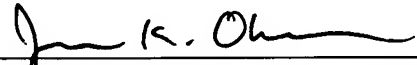
Conclusion

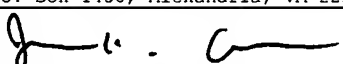
For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now in form for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


James K. Okamoto, Reg. No. 40,110
Okamoto & Benedicto LLP
P.O. Box 641330
San Jose, CA 95164
Tel.: (408)436-2110
Fax.: (408)436-2114

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